

REMARKS

The above election along with the following remarks are being submitted as a full and complete response to the Official Action dated December 28, 2004 and the phone conversation with the Examiner on February 17, 2005. During the phone call, the Examiner acknowledged that the Invention I: claims 15-20 were cancelled in the Preliminary Amendment concurrently filed with the application on November 14, 2003 such that the restriction requirement should be withdrawn. The Examiner suggested that Applicants file a response to expedite the withdrawal on the restriction requirement.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the restriction requirement back to the patent term of any patent issuing from this application. Applicants understand that the delay resulting from this restriction requirement may in due course be attributed and credited. The Examiner is also respectfully requested to review the substance of Invention II: Claims 1-14 and 21-22, and to indicate the allowability of the claims.

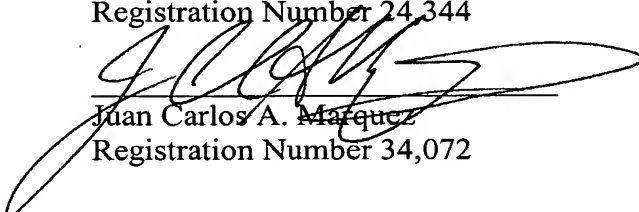
To the extent applicable, Invention II: Claims 1-14 and 21-22 has been elected with traverse to continue prosecution in this application, while other claims independently reciting other embodiments are withdrawn from further prosecution without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants hereby reserve the right to file Divisional applications on any or all of the cancelled species or claims. Applicants hereby submit that no new matter is being introduced into the application through the submission of this response.

Substantive consideration of the generic claim and elected species claims is respectfully solicited. Should there be any outstanding issues requiring discussion that would further the prosecution and allowance of the above-captioned application, the Examiner is

invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the address and phone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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